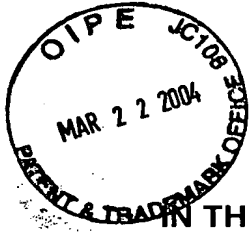


Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 033294-017



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 033294-017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
)	
Hiroyuki KANO et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3681
)	
Application No.: 10/690,666)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: October 23, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 5862
)	
For: AUTOMATIC CLUTCH)	
CONTROL DEVICE)	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the following information is brought to the Examiner's attention.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 60-44641. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page one of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is also attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 9-79374. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page one of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is also attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 60-215435. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,732,246.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 62-247931. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,899,279.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 6-272761. An English-language translation of this document obtained from the Japanese Patent Office website is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. As noted on the English language translation, the translation was made by computer and thus may not precisely reflect the original document.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 9-42443. An English-language translation of this document obtained from the Japanese Patent Office website is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. As noted on the English language translation, the translation was made by computer and thus may not precisely reflect the original document.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 61-220940. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,732,055.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 61-235241. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,899,857.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 8-200399. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,634,867.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-36912. An English-language translation of this document obtained from the Japanese Patent Office website is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. As noted on the English language translation, the translation was made by computer and thus may not precisely reflect the original document.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-88009. An English-language translation of this document obtained from the Japanese Patent Office website is also enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. As noted on the English language translation, the translation was made by computer and thus may not precisely reflect the original document.

To assist the Examiner in entering the foregoing information into the record, the above-noted documents are cited on the attached form PTO-1449.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed, except that copies of the listed U.S. patents are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the foregoing information and to acknowledge such consideration by initialling, signing and returning the enclosed additional copy of form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER, & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: March 22, 2004

By: Matthew L. Schneider
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**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

APPLICATION No.
10/690,666

FILING DATE
October 23, 2003

GROUP
3681

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes No	
	60-44641	A	JAPAN	3-09-1985		
	9-79374	A	JAPAN	3-25-1997		
	60-215435	A	JAPAN	10-28-1985		
	62-247931	A	JAPAN	10-29-1987		
	6-272761	A	JAPAN	9-27-1994	X	
	9-42443	A	JAPAN	2-14-1997	X	
	61-220940	A	JAPAN	10-01-1986		
	61-235241	A	JAPAN	10-20-1986		
	8-200399	A	JAPAN	8-06-1996		
	11-36912	A	JAPAN	2-09-1999	X	
	2000-88009	A	JAPAN	3-28-2000	X	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Date
Considered

(11/02)

**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

GROUP
3681

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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	60-44641	A	JAPAN	3-09-1985		
	9-79374	A	JAPAN	3-25-1997		
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	6-272761	A	JAPAN	9-27-1994	X	
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	61-220940	A	JAPAN	10-01-1986		
	61-235241	A	JAPAN	10-20-1986		
	8-200399	A	JAPAN	8-06-1996		
	11-36912	A	JAPAN	2-09-1999	X	
	2000-88009	A	JAPAN	3-28-2000	X	

[illegible]

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.